MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

STUDENT ID NO

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FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 3, 2016/2017 SESSION

PEN0065 - ACADEMIC ENGLISH

(All groups)

31 MAY 2017
2.30pm - 4.30p m
(2 Hours)

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT

1. This Question paper consists of 6 pages with 3 sections only.
2. Answer **ALL** questions.
3. Write all your answers in the answer booklet.

SECTION A: READING AND VOCABULARY [25 MARKS]

Instructions: Read the four reading texts, and answer the questions for each text in complete sentences.

Text 1 (6 marks)

A new study has found that the collection of hundreds of letters written by King George III, the so-called "Mad King," supports the modern diagnosis that he suffered from mental illness during his later years. Using computer analysis, researchers investigated letters written by George during his 60-year reign over Great Britain and Ireland, from 1760 to 1820. They compared writings from periods in his life when he was thought to be mentally unsound, to letters he wrote when he appeared healthy.

The researchers programmed a computer so that it learned to identify 29 written features to differentiate between the writings of people who had mental disorders and people who did not. It analysed features such as complexity of sentence structure, vocabulary richness, and word variation and repetition. The computer then searched for those features in the king's letters by comparing changes in his writing style to identify any deteriorating mental health. The researchers trained a computer to identify what could be signs of mental illness in King George III, as defined by the writing style in his letters, said study co-author Peter Garrard, a professor of neurology at St. George's University of London. "King George wrote very differently when unwell, compared to when he was healthy," Garrard said in a statement. "In the manic periods, we could see that he used less-rich vocabulary and fewer adverbs. He repeated words less often, and there was a lower degree of redundancy, or wordiness," Garrard said.

George was widely considered to be a cultured monarch. He founded and funded the Royal Academy of Arts, was the first British monarch to study science and established a vast royal library, of which 65,000 volumes were later donated to the British Museum, according to a biography posted on the British royal family's website. However, George was also held responsible for "losing" the American colonies, which declared their independence in 1776. Great Britain's defeat exacted a toll on the king's health. He went through periods of physical and mental illness from 1788 to 1789 and during 1801, the royal family's website reported. By 1810, the king's mental condition had deteriorated so much that he was unfit to continue as king, and his oldest son, George IV, assumed the throne as Prince Regent.

Adapted from Weisberger, M. (2017, March 23). King George's letters betray madness, computer finds. *Live Science*. Retrieved from http://www.livescience.com/58389-king-george-letters-mania-evidence.html

a) What did the researchers use to diagnose King George III's mental illness? (2 marks)

b) Identify the features that a programmed computer analyses in order to trace the signs of mental illness. Provide some examples of King George's writing style during his manic period. (3 marks)

c) What is the main idea of paragraph 3? (1 mark)

Continued...

Text 2 (6 marks)

Sometimes "you" does not mean "you," a new study finds. Instead, in these instances, people say "you" to make it easier to talk about a negative experience, according to the study. In this sense, the word "you" can **obliquely** mean "I".

People sometimes use "you" to mean "anyone", or to refer to people in general rather than the specific audience being addressed. The researchers referred to this usage as the "generic-you". When a person says, for example, "Are you free for lunch tomorrow?", the question refers to a specific person, but making a statement like "you win some, you lose some" is an example of a "generic-you", according to the study.

In the study, the researchers conducted a series of nine experiments, focusing on why people use this form of "you". Results showed that the "generic-you" helps people cope with negative experiences. "When people use 'you' to make meaning from negative experiences, it allows them to 'normalise' the experience and reflect on it from a distance," lead study author Ariana Orvell, a doctoral student in psychology at the University of Michigan, said in a statement. Another example is the statement, "when you are angry, you say and do things that you will most likely regret," Orvell said. When someone makes this statement, it "might actually explain a personal situation, but the individual attempts to make it into something many people relate to," she said.

In one experiment, the researchers **hypothesised** that people would use the "generic-you" to reflect on negative experiences. To test this hypothesis, one group of participants was asked to write about a negative personal experience, and another group was asked to write about a neutral personal experience. The people in the negative group used the "generic-you" more in their responses than the people in the neutral group.

In another experiment, all of the participants were asked to write about a negative personal experience. One group was asked to focus on what lessons could be learned from the experience, while another group was asked to write about the emotions **they** felt during the experience. The people who were asked to focus on the lessons they learned used the "generic-you" more than the people who focused on their emotions, the researchers found. This suggests that the "generic-you" is a way for people to give meaning to an experience, and be less affected by it emotionally.

Adapted from Miller, S.G. (2017, March 24). Why people say 'you' when they mean 'me'. *Live Science*. Retrieved from http://www.livescience.com/58411-when-you-means-me.html

a) State TRUE or FALSE for the following statements:
   i. Generally, when people say "you", they refer to the society.
   ii. The use of "generic-you" in conversation or writing helps people to deal with bad experience. (1 mark)

b) What does the word *'they'* in line 25 refer to? (1 mark)

c) Provide two reasons why people use the "generic-you" more than "I". (2 marks)

d) Provide a word or a phrase that best defines each of the following words:
   i. *obliquely* (line 3)
   ii. *hypothesised* (line 18) (2 marks)

Continued...

Text 3 (7 marks)

Added sugar is the single worst ingredient in the modern diet. It can have harmful effects on metabolism and contribute to all sorts of diseases. Added sugar, like the plague, should be avoided for any reason. Sucrose and high fructose corn syrup contain a lot of calories with no essential nutrients. For this reason, they are called "empty" calories. There are no proteins, essential fats, vitamins or minerals in sugar. It is just pure energy. When people consume ten to twenty per cent of calories from sugar, this can become a major problem and contribute to nutrient deficiencies. Sugar is also very bad for the teeth because it provides easily digestible energy for the bad bacteria in the mouth.

In order to understand what is so bad about sugar, you need to understand what it is made of. Before sugar enters the bloodstream from the digestive tract, it is broken down into two simple sugars which are glucose and fructose. Glucose is found in every living cell on the planet. If we do not get it from the diet, our bodies produce it. Fructose is different. Our bodies do not produce it in any significant amount, and there is no physiological need for it. The thing with fructose is that it can only be metabolised by the liver in any significant amounts. This is not a problem if we eat a little bit (such as from fruit), or we just finished an exercise session. In this case, the fructose will be turned into glycogen and stored in the liver until we need it. However, if the liver is full of glycogen, eating a lot of fructose overloads the liver, forcing it to turn the fructose into fat. When repeatedly eating large amounts of sugar, this process can lead to fatty liver and all sorts of serious problems. Keep in mind that all of these do not apply to fruit. It is almost impossible to overeat fructose by eating fruit. There is also a massive individual variability here. People who are healthy and active can **tolerate** more sugar than people who are inactive and eat a Western, high-carb, high-calorie diet. The bottom line is that for people who are inactive and eat a Western diet, large amounts of fructose from added sugars get turned into fat in the liver.

When fructose is turned into fat in the liver, it is shipped out as Very Low Density Lipoprotein (VLDL) cholesterol particles. However, not all of the fat gets out as some of it can lodge in the liver. This can lead to Non-Alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD), a growing problem in Western countries that is strongly associated with metabolic diseases. Studies show that individuals with fatty liver consume up to two to three times as much fructose as the average person.

Adapted from Kris Gunars. (2017). 10 disturbing reasons why sugar is bad for you. *Authority Nutrition.* Retrieved from https://authoritynutrition.com/10-disturbing-reasons-why-sugar-is-bad/

a) What is the author's purpose of writing this article? (1 mark)

b) What is the tone of the author in this article? (1 mark)

c) Describe the process of turning sugar into fat. (2 marks)

d) Provide an **antonym** for the word *'tolerate'* (line 22). (1 mark)

e) Why is over consumption of fructose detrimental? (2 marks)

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Text 4 (6 marks)

Surfing is bigger than ever. Though an ancient Polynesian pastime imbibed with spirituality and cultural significance, it only began to emerge in terms of global popularity during the late 1950s and early 1960s. At this time, the modern surfing era began in its ancestral home of Hawaii as well as in California and Australia. Since then, surfing has gone through a few booms and even some **lulls**, but in terms of mainstream appeal and global spread, it is now experiencing unprecedented growth.

One reason behind surfing's popularity is that it does not take a lot of gear to get started. The biggest and most expensive requirement is a surfboard, which can cost anywhere from $150 to $500. These boards come in a range of basic shapes and sizes within two broad categories that are longboards and shortboards. Both types can have permanent or removable fins on their undersides as well as strips of sturdy material known as stringers to help hold the board together. The sides of the surfboards, known as rails, can be rounded or tapered in a variety of ways to suit different surfers' preferences. The bottom of the board, or rocker, can curve to different degrees, changing how much of the board is in contact with the water.

Surfing requires balance and coordination, and getting started on a wave involves a key movement known as the pop-up. Like the push-off when riding a bike, the pop-up is central to riding a wave. The surfer leaves from shore and paddles out into the surf while lying on the board. The surfer floats in the water near the spot where the wave will begin to break. When a wave approaches, the surfer paddles hard to catch up with it. This step, known as catching the wave, can be tricky, and it requires significant upper-body strength. Just before the wave starts to break, the surfer pushes down on the board as though he is doing a push-up. At the same time, he draws his legs up under his body, plants his feet and stands up.

There is a very real risk of drowning while surfing. Accidental drownings at surf beaches average 2.38 surfers per 100,000 surfers. These numbers are specific to tourists and visitors; locals to surf beaches have a lower drowning rate of 0.28 per 100,000. Being held-down, getting trapped on the reef, being separated from your board and not being able to swim in, and being unconscious through a collision are all possible causes of **demise** while surfing. Australia, one of the most popular countries in the world for surfing, averages 21 deaths per year from rip currents.

Adapted from Wilson,T.V. (2015). How stuff works. *How Surfing Works*. Retrieved from http://adventure.howstuffworks.com/outdoor-activities/water-sports/surfing3.html

a) How does a surfer catch the wave? (1 mark)

b) What can be inferred about surfing from this passage? (1 mark)

c) State the potential hazards of surfing ? (2 marks)

d) Provide a word or a phrase that best defines each of the following words:
   i. *lulls* (line 5)
   ii. *demise* (line 30) (1 mark)

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e) Identify each statement below as a fact or an opinion.
   i. The modern surfing era began in its ancestral home of Hawaii.
   ii. There is a very real risk of drowning while surfing. (1 mark)

SECTION B: GRAMMAR [10 MARKS]

Question 1: Transitions (5 marks)

Instructions: Fill in each blank with a suitable transition.

Example: (0) <u>Basically</u>, fear is an illusion inexistent in the physical world.

(0) <u>Basically</u>, fear is an illusion inexistent in the physical world. It is neither tangible nor visible. However, it exists in our minds and manifests through our actions. We therefore bring fear to life, many times without need. (a) _____, when our actions are founded in fear, we almost always make poor decisions which can have undesirable consequences on us and others.

(b) _____, fear also plays a vital role in our lives. We would live with reckless abandon if we knew no notion of fear, performing all sorts of downright dangerous activities. The key is to distinguish between actions which induce a healthy acknowledgment of apprehension versus illogical triggers of fear.

People are by nature afraid of change. They fear that change will somehow disrupt their lives or uproot them from their comfort zone. (c) _____, change serves to transport us into new greater manifestations of ourselves, and allow necessary changes to come our way, even if they may seem frightening at first.

(d) _____ the role of fear is to keep us safe, we do ourselves no favour by living in fear. To awaken our potential and draw in bigger possibilities, we must eradicate fear from our lives through daily efforts which promote our strength and self-security. (e) _____, we all possess the inherent trait of everlasting courage which can guide us through most of anything.

Adapted from Harra, C. (2017). Overcoming fear in 8 steps . *The Huffington Post.* Retrieved from http://www.huffingtonpost.com/dr-carmen-harra/overcoming-fear_b_3878033.html

Continued...

Question 2: Modal Verbs (5 marks)

Instructions: Fill in each blank with a suitable modal verb.

Example: Each individual **0) <u>can</u>** bring an important help by adopting a more responsible lifestyle, starting from little, everyday things.

Global Warming is a dramatically urgent and serious problem. We do not need to wait for governments to find a solution for this problem. Each individual **(0) <u>can</u>** bring an important help by adopting a more responsible lifestyle, starting from little, everyday things.

Around three per cent of the greenhouse gas emissions through the methane is released by decomposing bio-degradable waste. By recycling organic waste or composting it if you have a garden, you (a) _____ help eliminate this problem. Just make sure that you compost it properly, so it decomposes with sufficient oxygen; otherwise, your compost (b)_____ cause methane emissions and smell foul.

When shopping, you (c) _____ save energy and waste by using a reusable bag instead of accepting a disposable one in each shop. You save almost 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide a year by recycling half of the waste your household generates. Waste not only discharges carbon dioxide and methane into the atmosphere, it (d) _____ also pollute the air, groundwater and soil.

Some (e) _____ find it hard to believe that proper tyre inflation can improve gas mileage by more than three per cent. Since every gallon of gasoline saved keeps 20 pounds of carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere, every increase in fuel efficiency makes a difference.

Adapted from Global Warming Facts. (2013). Top 50 things to do to stop global warming. Retrieved from http://globalwarming-facts.info/50-tips/

SECTION C: WRITING [25 MARKS]

Instructions: Write a process essay of **not less than 350** words based on the information given below.

As a student, it is important for you to build your teamwork skills. From completing assignments to playing sports or even organising trips, a little collaboration can go a long way. Discuss the steps that can be taken to ensure effective teamwork.

End of Paper